

LaRita Williams

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Education

Columbia University Teacher's College – New York, NY

Klingenstein Summer Institute, Summer 2017

Georgia Institute of Technology - Atlanta, GA

M.S. in Organic Chemistry and Synthesis, December 2014

Howard University - Washington, DC

B.S. in Chemistry (magna cum laude), May 2012

Experience in Teaching and Education

Upper Learning Chemistry Instructor

8/2015 – Present

Galloway School – Atlanta, GA

- Led bimonthly faculty group meetings on Critical Friends Feedback Protocols
- Planned and organize teacher workshops through the Professional Development Committee
- Wrote and contributed content to the school's new diversity webpage
- Volunteered for the admissions team's minority recruitment efforts and prospective family fairs
- Served as faculty liaison to the parent group Families of Color United for Success (FoCUS)
- Sponsored two student clubs: Minority Empowerment Forum and Science Olympiad
- Chaperoned global field trips through the "Galloway Goes" Initiative (Greece, Turkey)
- Instructed multiple course sections of Advanced Placement (AP) Chemistry, Integrated Chemistry, Anatomy and Physiology, and Scientific Investigation

Chemistry and Research Design Instructor

Summer 2016

Georgia Governor's Honors Program (GHP) –Valdosta, GA

- Led daily experiments involving common procedures of both Analytical and Organic Chemistry
- Facilitated students' independent research projects from data collection to formal presentation
- Evaluated students' performance based on laboratory technique, data analysis, scientific writing, comprehension and critical-thinking skills

Adjunct Chemistry Professor

1/2015 – 8/2015

Faulkner State Community College – Bay Minette, AL

- Lectured a full course load of Introduction to Inorganic Chemistry, College Chemistry I and II
- Led weekly experiments designed to supplement the lecture material for each course
- Planned course content and methods of instruction
- Assessed students' class work, laboratory performance, assignments, quizzes and exams for comprehension and critical-thinking skills
- Prepared curriculum materials, including course outlines, syllabi, and instructional resources
- Hosted regularly scheduled office hours for individual or group tutorials

Academic Tutor and Standardized Test Prep Coach

9/2013 – 12/8/14

MathSP, LLC - Atlanta, GA

- Co-led a class of 15-20 8th graders in a seasonal, 7 week SSAT preparatory course
- Tutored students individually in all secondary math and science subjects, and SAT mathematics
- Communicated with students' parents and teachers regarding progress

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Graduate Teaching Assistant

Georgia Institute of Technology – Atlanta, GA

8/2012 – 12/2014

- Taught as guest lecturer for a class of nearly 100 students
- Co-led two course sections of sophomore Organic Chemistry lab
- Prepared chemical reagents and other laboratory materials
- Explained laboratory procedures and apparatus set-up to students
- Facilitated all student experiments, including distillation, bromination, Grignard, Suzuki, and Witting reactions
- Assessed student lab reports, focusing on scientific writing and data analysis
- Led regularly scheduled small group tutoring sessions or recitations

Chemistry Lesson Writer

Study.com, LLC

- Planned and wrote original text lessons 500-1000 words in length on a variety of chemistry-related topics, including but not limited to equilibrium, polarity, and integrated rate law
- Designed visual aids, illustrations, and graphics to support each lesson
- Prepared a minimum of 5 multiple choice questions, their answers, and detailed explanations that allow students to test their understanding of the material covered in each lesson

Research Experience

Graduate Research Assistant

Georgia Institute of Technology – Atlanta, GA
Center for Organic Photonics and Electronics

5/2013 – 8/2014

- Synthesized donor-pi-acceptor dyes for solar cells using carbon-hydrogen (C-H) activation techniques developed in the lab
- Characterized dye products via NMR, MS, UV-Vis, and CV
- Optimized synthetic routes and dye functionalization
- Prepared regular reports and presentations to summarize experimental progress for the lab group, principal investigator, and funding agency

Leadership and Involvement

NAIS People of Color Conference, *Affinity Group Facilitator* 2017
BOLD Summit for Leaders of Color, *Steering Committee* 2017
Tearing Down Walls: Southeastern Independent Schools' Forum on Race, *Steering Committee* 2017

Professional Development

Klingenstein Summer Institute for Early Career Teachers 2017
National School Reform Critical Friends Training 2017
BOLD Summit for Leaders of Color 2016

Honors and Awards

Professional Association of Georgia Educators STAR Teacher Award 2017
Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award, Georgia Institute of Technology 2013